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SIXTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
New York, 25 August-3 September 1992
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE FIFTH CONFERENCE

Report of the Norden Division

Paper submitted by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names**

* E/CONF.85/1/Rev.1.

** Prepared by E. M. Närhi (Finland) in cooperation with B. Hjorth Pedersen (Denmark), Bórhallur Vilmundarson (Iceland), B. Helleland (Norway) and A.-Ch. Mattisson (Sweden).

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Since the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names in 1987 the work carried out by the countries of Norden Division has mainly focussed on the national programs of the national onomastic, cartographic, and geographic institutions of the countries concerned. The reviews and results of the work are discussed in detail in the national reports of the individual countries. Some information from Denmark and Iceland is included in this report.

Nordic and Nordic-Baltic meetings. - Regular contacts of experts on onomastics and linguistics, as well as on cartography, and geography are a tradition within the Nordic countries. Perhaps this is the reason that the Norden Division has had formal meetings only infrequently. Since the 5th U.N. Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names in 1987 the Norden Division has met once, on April 10-11, 1989 in Gävle, Sweden. This meeting was attended by 14 participants from Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden. The items discussed were the following:

1. collaboration to ensure uniformity on maps and charts,
2. problems on the usage of Sámi (Lappish) orthography when computerizing names,
3. the status of the toponymic data bases in the Nordic countries.

The next divisional meeting was held in Helsinki, Finland, on 13 March 1992. It was attended by 22 experts from Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden, including representatives for Swedish speakers in Finland, the North Sámi people, and Finnish speakers in Norway. The meeting can also be called historical one because one of the new member countries of United Nations, Estonia, sent an observer to it.

The following issues were discussed:

1. the tasks before the Sixth UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names,
2. the reduction of conventional names (exonyms),
3. the stability and instability in the usage of the Romanization systems accepted at UN conferences in 1972, 1977, 1987,
4. the status of the geographical names used by the national minorities in Nordic countries,
5. how to improve the implementation of recom mendations of UNGEGN in internal institutions, and,
6. the problems regarding reliable information about name changes and new names in foreign countries.

Resolutions made by the divisional meeting:

1. Since Ms. E. M. Närhi from Finland desired to withdraw from the chairmanship, and the experts from Denmark considered it difficult to assume the position at the time, it was decided that the chairmanship of the Division would rotate to Norway: Mr. B. Helleland will act as the chairman from the beginning of the year 1993.
2. An ad hoc group of experts from each Nordic country was established for discussion of a common policy on how the usage of exonyms (national conventional names) could be reduced in accordance with the recommendations of the UN Conferences (II 28, 29, III 18, 19, IV 20).

A representative from Finland participated as an observer in the meeting arranged by the Estonian Language Office 7-8 May 1992 in Tallinn. The institutions on onomastics and cartography in the Baltic countries, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, were asked by the Estonian Language Office to send their experts to the regional meeting on the standardization and use of geographical names in the Baltic states. This extraordinarily rewarding meeting was intended as a start for working with UNGEGN. Each of three countries expressed strongly their national needs for cooperation on the standardization of geographical names both with other countries and UNGEGN.

Nordic projects. - The Nordic countries are preparing a joint database of names in their area. It is based upon a 1:2 000 000 scale map.

The list of country names in Danish, Finnish, Norwegian, and Swedish with the corresponding derivatives used to designate their inhabitants is being updated and will be published by the Nordic Language Board in the near future.

National standardization, names authorities, gazetteers in Denmark

Cooperation with Danmarks Statistik (Denmark Statistical Bureau) and Geodætisk Institut (The Geodetic Institute), which, following its amalgamation with Søkortarkivet (the Hydrographic Department) and Matrikeldirektoratet (the Land Registry Office) has changed its name to Kort- og Matrikelstyrelsen (the National Survey and Cadastre), has been intensified since 1987. This increased cooperation means that the names of municipalities and parishes etc. will henceforth appear with uniform spelling in the publications of the Institutes.

The Place-name Committee currently treats matters concerning orthography, alterations in place-names, and authorization of names. The general public takes a great interest in place-names, in particular, the problem of writing the Scandinavian letter å as aa, as well as the difficulties presented by the letters æ and ø will be discussed before the Common Market in 1992.

The authority to authorize the orthographical forms of names remains with the Ministry of Cultural Affairs to which the Place-Name Committee recommends alterations.

The authorized lists Fortegnelse over stednavne i amterna øst for Lillebælt and Fortegnelse over stednavne i amterne vest for Lillebælt have been stored on magnetic tapes and installed on the large computer system of the National Survey and Cadastre/Denmark. This means that it is now possible to compare the authorized names with the names in the National Survey and Cadastre database Stednavneoplysninger (i.e. the names with all available topographic information). The lists are continuously updated, and the lists of corrections are given to the institutions particularly affected by this. For the time being, the Place-name Committee is not planning any new edition of the two lists, but it will be possible to extract lists containing all possible topographic information from the database in the National Survey and Cadastre.

In Denmark all newly published maps observe the UN recommendations and the transliteration system adopted in Montreal 1987.

Toponymic data files of Iceland

The production of a general computerized register of place names is in progress in Iceland.

Addresses

Denmark

Institut for Navneforskning
Njalsgade 80
DK-2300 KØBENHAVN S
DENMARK

Finland

KKTK-NT
Sörnäisten rantatie 25
SF-00500 HELSINKI
FINLAND

Karttakeskus
Opastinsilta 12
SF-00520 HELSINKI
FINLAND

Maanmittaushallitus
Karttaosasto
PL 84
SF-00521 HELSINKI
FINLAND

Merenkulkuhallitus
Merikarttaosasto
PL 158
SF-00141 HELSINKI
FINLAND

Iceland

Örnefnastofnun þjóðminjasafns
Suðurgötu 41
IS-101 REYKJAVIK
ISLAND

Norway

Avdeling for namnegransking
Postboks 1011 Blindern
N-0315 OSLO
NORWAY

Samisk institutt
N-9520 KAUTOKEINO
NORWAY

Statens kartverk
N-3500 HØNEFOSS
NORWAY

Sweden

Lantmäteriverket
S-801 82 GÄVLE
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Box 2041
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Report of Finland

Paper submitted by Finland**

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* E/CONF.85/1/Rev.1.

** Prepared by E. M. Närhi, Head of Onomastic Division, Finnish Research Centre for Domestic Languages, Helsinki.

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1. A DISCUSSION OF GOALS AND NATIONAL PROGRAMS

1.1. The objective of the **field collection** of toponyms is to collect and archive all the geographical names, those referring to inhabited places as well as natural features. The collection is carried out systematically by interviewing the permanent inhabitants of each region. The collectors have linguistic training as well as special practice in the collection of names. A handbook for collectors, Terho Itkonen's sixty-seven page **Nimestäjän opas** (The Name Collector's Guide) appeared in 1961. This was followed in 1965 by a publication giving detailed instructions concerning the linguistic standardization of place names, Viljo Nissilä's **Paikannimistömme huolto ja suojelu** (The Treatment and Maintenance of our Place Names, 117 pages). The principles followed in the collection and standardization of the onomastic material correspond to the recommendation issued at the first United Nations conference (Geneva 1967 Recommendation 4.B).

The collections of names are intended to serve official treatment of names, cartography, the authorities in different fields, and scientific research, primarily onomastics, but the interests of research in dialectology, history, folklore, zoology, botany, geology, limnology, and other fields are also served.

Between 1987 and 1991 the Finnish toponym collections increased by 106,000 archive cards. The material collected as of now includes a total of 2.5 million names. These original name cards have been arranged alphabetically by municipalities and copies of the information have been arranged into a uniformly alphabetized collection of all the place names in the country. It has been estimated that approximately 4% of the place names in Finland have not yet been collected. During the current year field work will be continued in nineteen municipalities. According to plans, the work should be concluded during this decade. Collection in the Swedish-speaking part of Finland was concluded in 1986. The Onomastic Division of the Research Centre for Domestic Languages has been responsible for the collection of Finnish place names and the Swedish Language Division of the Research Centre for Swedish names. Financing has been provided by the State.

1.2. **Toponymic data files.** - The **place name bank** project was begun at the Onomastic Division in 1991. The first goal has been to create a database from a 10% sampling of original collections of place names, that is to say, something on the order of 280,000 entries. The municipalities in the sample have been selected on an equal basis from all over the country so that the database would provide as representative a picture of the toponyms in different types of areas as possible. As of this writing (May 1992) the place name bank contains 26,000 entries.

The data base called **the Names of Inhabited Places in Finland** (Suomen asutusnimet) consists the names of the Finnish municipalities, cities, villages, hamlets, and districts. The data base compiled by the Onomastic Division contains about 21 000 records, and it will be updated periodically. A gazetteer **Alastarolla Ylistarossa** based on this data file was published by Ritva Korhonen in 1990.

The real estate register is kept by the National Land Survey of Finland. When the computerization of the register is completed it will involve the numeric conversion of all existing real estate date. By the end of 1991 the project was running on schedule, with 81% of this data and one third of all cadastral maps filed in the register numerically. In addition to containing the names of cities and parishes, the register also includes the names of villages and farmsteads. The register contains an estimated two million names of inhabited places.

The most important cartographic projects and the registers of names connected with them. The National Land Survey of Finland has kept **the basic map** (1:20,000) completed in 1977 up to date. This map, consisting of 3,750 sheets each covering an area of 10 x 10 km^2, covers the entire country. The map contains almost a million names. All the names have been checked by specialists in onomastics, for which reason the names on the basic map are regarded as having official status. The information contained in the basic map, including place names, is being completely digitized. The database will, as required, be used in the compilation of different types

of maps and other geographical products, statistics, etc. The digitizing of the basic map will be completed by the end of the decade.

The topographic map (1:50,000) published by the National Land Survey of Finland is also derived from the basic map. The map is produced digitally. As of now thirty-six sheets have been produced and the entire set of maps will comprise 360 sheets. Updated versions of these maps will be printed every fifth year. The topographic map will be completed by the year 2000. It will contain about 350,000 names, this being a third of the material contained in the basic map.

The GT map (1:200,000) consists of nineteen sheets. It is revised at intervals of between three and five years. The map contains approximately 60,000 place names which have also been stored as a database. In principle, the names represent those which have been officially approved, since it is based on the names of the checked basic map. The GT map is published by the Map Centre (Karttakeskus).

The General Road Map (1:1,600,000) is updated and published annually by Map Centre (Karttakeskus). The index of place names on the reverse side of the map contains approximately 1,500 names from Finland and approximately 400 names from neighboring countries. The names as well as other information on the map has been computerized.

2. A DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS, SOLUTIONS, AND ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

In Finland **the official treatment** of Finnish names is the responsibility of the Onomastic Division, with the corresponding responsibility for Swedish names being borne by the Swedish Language Division of the Finnish Research Centre for Domestic Languages. Since 1987 the major projects have been 1) the correction of names in maps which have been published, 2) the checking of proposals for names of roads, and 3) the acquisition and provision of information concerning changes in names and their spelling or pronunciation in foreign countries.

2.1. Ensuring that the names on maps do not contain mistakes continued in the traditional manner on a cooperative basis between the Onomastic Division and the National Land Survey of Finland. Since the Fifth UN Conference in Montreal, 1987, 1,121 sheets of the 1:20,000 scale Finnish Basic Map have ben updated, with all the approximately 262,000 names they contain revised. Only Finnish names were found on 935 sheets, only Swedish names on 66 sheets, Finnish and Swedish names were found on 54 sheets, while Finnish and Sámi names were found on 68 sheets.

2.2. The responsibility for planning the systematic naming of roads in sparsely populated regions, in addition to urban areas, was handed over to the municipalities in 1988. The purpose was to create a comprehensive, clear, and consistent nationwide system of addresses for postal services, traffic, emergencies and the like. A prerequisite for such a network is the naming of roads. In Finland tens of thousands of names for roads are needed. The new system of addresses will gradually change the traditional manner in which names are used so that, for example, using the names of farmsteads will decrease. The plans drawn up by the municipalities for naming roads have been checked by the Onomastic Division within the limits permitted by resources. The relevant local officials have been informed of the basic guidelines for creating names by mail as well as by radio and the press.

2.3. The use of foreign names in the Finnish mass media according to the recommendations approved by the UN Conferences on Standardization of Geographical Names has encountered more difficulties during the past few years than was formerly the case. The troubles are caused by changes in names and the flow of names of places which never before have been mentioned in everyday news. Those place names appear transliterated in various ways in the press releases coming from news agencies using different languages, nor is it really possible to check the reliability of the information quickly. Contacts between the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the

Onomastic Division, and the mass media have been improved in order to ensure that new foreign names are used correctly.

3. PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCES

The most important maps published since 1987 have been mentioned under the 1.2 of the report.

Maiden nimet suomeksi, ruotsiksi, englanniksi ja ranskaksi (A List of country names in Finnish, Swedish, English and French). Helsinki 1987, 102 pgs. Edited by Eeva Maria Närhi. A new, updated edition also including names in Sámi and German will be published in 1992.

Ritva Korhonen, **Alastarolla Ylistarossa** (A gazetteer of names of inhabited places in Finland and the declension of the names). Helsinki 1990, 555 pgs. - The gazetteer gives the name in standard Finnish as well as its declension, the entity and location (the municipality and village) of the place, and the alternative name if it exists. The book contains approximately 20,000 entries.

Eero Kiviniemi, **Perustietoa paikannimistä** (Basic Information on toponyms). Helsinki 1990, 243 pgs. - The book covers the most general generic and specific terms pertaining to Finnish toponyms, the most common names, and principles for giving names.

Finnish Onomastics, Studia Fennica 34. Heisinki 1990, 140 pgs. Edited by Heikki Leskinen and Eero Kiviniemi.

Kurt Zilliacus, **Skärgårdsnamn** (Toponyms in the Archipelago). Borgå 1989, 251 pgs. The book covers the most general generic and specific terms pertaining to Swedish toponyms and the names of islands, and gives detailed information on the origin of the names.

The 17th International Congress of Onomastic Sciences was held in Helsinki from the 13th to the 18th of August, 1990. The theme of the sixth section of the congress, 'Treatment and maintenance of names on maps, official names in bi- or multilingual areas, official naming procedures, compatibility and structure of onomastic data files (e.g. classification of entities), names and the lexicon, name atlases', was directly related to the work of the UNGEGN.

The Congress report and most of the presentations have been published:
Proceedings of the XVIIth International Congress of Onomastic Sciences. Helsinki 1990. Volume 1, 501 pgs. and Volume 2, 494 pgs. Ed. Eeva Maria Närhi.

The 7th International Finno-ugric Congress was held in Debrecen in Hungary from the 27th of August to the 2nd of September, 1990. The papers given at the Congress have been published 1990 in ten volumes, edited by László Jakab, László Keresztes, Antal Kiss, Sándor Maticsák in Debrecen.

Addresses: The Finnish Research Centre for Domestic Languages (KKTK-NT)
Sörnäisten rantatie 25
SF-00500 HELSINKI

Map Centre (Karttakeskus)
Opastinsilta 12
SF-00520 HELSINKI

National Land Survey of Finland (MMH)
PL 84
SF-00521 HELSINKI

National Board of Navigation
PL 158
SF-00141 HELSINKI

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Report of Hungary

Paper submitted by Hungary**

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** Prepared by the Department of Lands and Mapping of the Ministry of Agriculture, Budapest.

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Committee on Geographical Names

The Committee on Geographical Names is a decision-making and advisory body organized in the Ministry of Agriculture under Order No. 71/1989 of the Council of Ministers (see annex). It makes, and in some cases coordinates, advises on and records, all decisions concerning official geographical names used in Hungary. It has about 25 members from Hungarian ministries and national authorities particularly interested in the use of geographical names.

It establishes the official geographical names within its competence, i.e., names of physical relief and regions, areas, waters, nature reserves, transport and communication. It gives expert opinion on new town and village names, names of built-up areas of cities and communities, names of outskirt settlements and of streets suggested by local governments.

It establishes the use on maps and spelling of toponyms falling outside the frontiers of the country.

The former Committee on Geographical names, established in 1963, acted until 1989 within the framework of the Hungarian national authority on geodesy and cartography. From 1990 it was transformed into an interdepartmental committee, by which measure

(a) It became independent (at least legally) of the national authority on geodesy and cartography;

(b) On the other hand, it may directly turn to national authorities on toponymic questions falling within their competence.

Names authorities and names standardization

Administrative names

Decisions on names of communes, towns, and cities are made by the president of the Republic; names of countries, by the Parliament. The standardized form of this group of names is regularly published by the Central Statistical Office, and can be ordered at the following address:

Statisztikai számítástechnikai könyvesbolt
H-1024 Budapest
Keleti Károly utca 10.

Other names

For other geographical names, responsibility is split between the local governments (street names, names of the parts of cities, towns and communes, including the names of outskirt settlements) and the Committee on Geographical Names (Földrajzinév-bizottság), which decides on all other names. The

Committee is an inter-ministerial body situated in the Ministry of Agriculture at the following address:

Földrajzinév-bizottság
Földművelésügyi Minisztérium
H-1860 Budapest
Kossuth Lajos tér 11.

Registration and maintenance of standardized geographical names is carried out in the Institute of Geodesy, Cartography and Remote Sensing:

Földmérési és Távérzékelési Intézet
H-1373 Budapest
V.Sas utca 19.
P.O. Box 546

Gazetteers

Gazetteer of inhabited places of the Hungarian People's Republic (A Magyar Népköztársaság helységnévtára); Budapest, Statisztikai Kiadó Vállalat, 1985.

Contains the names of communes, towns and cities as well as smaller inhabited places, with population, area and other data as of 1980. This is the most recent source available at present on names inside cities, towns and communes. For names of counties, cities, towns and communes, a gazetteer will be published in mid-1992.

Gazetteer of Hungary I. The more important names of the relief, regions and hydrography (Magyarország Földrajzinév-tára I. Fontosabb domborzati, táj-és viznevek); Budapest, Kartográfiai Vállalat, 1983.

Contains more than 700 standardized geographical names. Includes a 1:500,000 map supplement.

Gazetteer of Hungary II. (Magyarország Földrajzinév-tára II); Kartográfiai Vállalat, 1979-1981.

A series of county gazetteers in 19 volumes with the title as given above and the county name added.

Four volumes appeared in 1978:

Győr-Sopron megye (new name: Győr-Sopron-Moson megye)

Vas megye

Veszprém megye

Zala megye.

Seven volumes appeared in 1979:

Somogy megye

Baranya megye

Tolna megye

Fejér megye

Komárom megye (new name: Komárom-Esztergom megye)

Pest megye, Budapest

Csongrád megye

Six volumes appeared in 1980:

Bács-Kiskun megye

Nógrád megye

Heves megye

Borsod-Abauj-Zemplén megye

Szolnok megye (new name: Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok megye)

Békés megye

Two volumes appeared in 1981:

Hajdu-Bihar megye

Szabolcs-Szatmár megye (new name: Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg megye)

Each volume is supplemented by a 1:150,000-scale map.

Recent activities of the Committee on Geographical Names

The formation of large (socialist) agricultural farms during the 1950s and 1960s has endangered the use and existence of many local names on the outskirts of communities. Collection, identification and standardization of these names, as part of the national heritage, is coordinated by the Committee. At the same time, this work involves the enlargement of the already existing Gazetteer of Geographical Names.

The long-range programme on the network of settlements (1971) of the former regime had counted on ending the independence of many so-called

"un-economic" small settlements. In the new economic-social situation a large number of former settlements, now parts of larger communities, want to regain their former independence. The Committee gives advice for establishing their names. Original names are always given priority.

With the change of political system the changing of the names of thousands of streets, squares etc. has become an issue. Here also the Committee suggests the restoration of former names to the decision makers, on request.

Minority languages

The following minority languages may have a role in the use of geographical names: Croatian, German, Romanian, Serbian, Slovak and Slovenian. Cities or communes with a considerable number of minorities are usually designated by an additional sign-post on the road with the minority language name of the city or commune.

According to clause 6, paragraph (4) of the Order of the Council of Ministers No. 71/1989 (see annex) "A minority language name can also be established, based on the rules given in the previous paragraph (1). A minority language name for features belonging to the categories mentioned in clause 3, paragraphs a) and d) to h), can be established parallel with the Hungarian name." This means that in cases of names of the relief and regions, names of nature reserves, names of systems of transport and communications, names of built-up areas of cities and communes, names of outskirt settlements, and street names, parallel minority language names can be applied. In all other types of geographical names a single minority language name can be given as the official name. It should be noted that administrative names are decided upon by separate orders, where neither parallel nor single minority language names can be given officially.

Exonyms

The list of exonyms in Hungary is being prepared, based on the Great Hungarian World Atlas (Budapest Cartographia, 1985, and 5th edition, 1989). Research work is being done is establish firm principles on the use of exonyms with special regard to territories having Hungarian minorities. An interesting feature in this matter is the decision of the Ukrainian Parliament concerning the official names of two villages in Carpathian Ukraine. The villages formerly officially called Яворово (Hungarian exonym: Eszeny) and Минеральное (Hungarian exonym: Tiszaásvány) are now officially named and written Eszeny (Есень) and Tiszaásvány (Тисаашвань). These names are therefore no longer exonyms in Hungary.

Country names

The name list of the countries of the world is constantly updated in view, especially, of recent developments in eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. The forms of names recommended by the Committee are generally

accepted in Hungarian cartography and public life, but in certain fields, such as diplomacy, foreign trade etc. other forms may be used in Hungarian official texts owing to special interests.

Gazetteer of Geographical Names-Database (FNT)

Aim of the database

The already existing manual (card) record of official geographical names had become increasingly more cumbersome and difficult to handle, owing to the growing number of names and the need for more frequent updating. Putting the names into a computerized system not only aimed at solving these problems, but to affording other institutions and organs access to official geograhical names.

The basic set of names for the database dates from 1977-1980. Initially recorded on the 1:150,000 county gazetteer series, the set of names has since been updated continually and enlarged, in line with the process of publishing the new 1:10,000 topographic series. The aim is to include all officially established geographical names on the 1:10,000 series in the database, besides the names of larger geographical features.

Input of data is being done on IBM PC, and transferred (export-import) to a Micro Vax computer. The database FNT in the Micro Vax is accessible on line for other institutions and organs on the X.25 network.

Content of the database

Each geographical name in the database is furnished with the following information:

Source material

Type of feature

Location (country and settlement)

Coordinates (grid and geographical)

Altitude (height above sea level) for relief features

Population (census data of settlements and parts of settlements)

Reference to other settlements (e.g., in case of larger features)

Variant names.

By mid-1992 the database consisted of 50,000 records. By the end of 1993 it is planned to have about 60,000 records, i.e. the size of the 1977-1980

series. By the end of the project the database will hold about 320,000 records (or, with the different name variant included, about 1,000,000 geographic names).

Methods of data retrieval may be by:

Location data (county, settlement)

Name (and elements of names)

Type of feature

Variant name

Grid coordinates (= map sheets).

The project has been subsidized by the National Council for Technical Development (OMFB), and is being implemented by the Hungarian Institute of Geodesy, Cartography and Remote Sensing.

FÖMI
1373 Budapest, P.O.B. 546
Fax (361) 2527918;
Tel. (361) 163-6670
Attention: Dr. József Gergely.

Annex

LEGAL BACKGROUND OF NAME STANDARDIZATION IN HUNGARY

A

Excerpts from the Constitution of the Republic of Hungary

§19

(2) The Parliament ...

§30A

(1) The President of the Republic ...

m) decides on all matters that fall under his authority by the force of a Law.

(2) The President of the Republic needs the Prime Minister's or the competent Minister's counter signature for all of his measures and orders defined in the previous section (1), with the exception of points a), d), e), f), and g).

§74

The capital of the Republic of Hungary is Budapest.

B

Excerpts from the Law No. LXV 1990, on local governments

§10

Authority from the local government cannot be transferred concerning ...

h) the naming of public grounds [i.e. streets etc.] ...

l) an opinion about matters in which the Law prescribes that a statement has to be given by the Local Government; ...

§52

(2) In case of an initiative to establish a new commune ... a preparatory committe has to be formed. The preparatory committee ... on the basis of an expert opinion ... makes suggestion for the name of the commune ... In preparing the suggestion ... either the Commissioner of the Republic or another body may give professional help.

§54

(1) Interested local governments may initiate the amalgamation of communes on the basis of a plebiscite where the built-up areas have been joined, or of cities and communes, suggesting at the same time the name of the new commune. The name of a commune no more existing because of amalgamation, has to be preserved as the name of that part of the new commune.

§58

The name of a commune or city has to be established in a way that it could not be taken for the name of another commune or city elswhere in the country. If an amalgamation is declared void, the commune usually gets back its name used before the amalgamation. About a new name of a commune the opinion of a professional body competent in geographical names has to be asked.

§93

(4) The Parliament decides on the territorial division of the State, and - after asking the opinion of the interested self-governments - on amalgamating and seperating counties, on changing their boundaries, on their names and centres, on giving the status of city with county rights, and on establishing the districts of the capital.

§94

The President of the Republic ...

b) on the initiative of the interested local government decides on giving the title of city, on establishing or amalgamating a commune, on making void an amalgamation, on the name of a city or a commune.

C

Parliament Decision No. 88/1990 on the counties of the Republic of Hungary on the name of the counties, and on their centre

1. The Parliament, on the basis of §93, section (4) of the Law No. LXV 1990 on local governments, defines the county division

of the Republic of Hungary with their present territory, the names of the counties and their centres, as follows ["megye" means county]

1. Bács-Kiskun megye, its centre: Kecskemét;
2. Baranya megye, its centre: Pécs;
3. Békés megye, its centre: Békéscsaba;
4. Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén megye, its centre: Miskolc;
5. Csongrád megye, its centre: Szeged;
6. Fejér megye, its centre: Székesfehérvár
7. Győr-Moson-Sopron megye, its centre: Győr;
8. Hajdú-Bihar megye, its centre: Debrecen;
9. Heves megye, its centre: Eger;
10. Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok megye, its centre: Szolnok;
11. Komárom-Esztergom megye, its centre: Tatabánya;
12. Nógrád megye, its centre: Salgótarján;
13. Pest megye, its centre: Budapest;
14. Somogy megye, its centre: Kaposvár;
15. Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg megye, its centre: Nyíregyháza;
16. Tolna megye, its centre: Szekszárd;
17. Vas megye, its centre: Szombathely;
18. Veszprém megye, its centre: Veszprém;
19. Zala megye, its centre: Zalaegerszeg.

2. This decision is effective as of the day of the 1990 election of the representatives of the local governments.

D

Excerpt from the Law No. XX 1991 on the duties of the local governments

(2) It falls under the authority of the local government ... the approval and change of geographical names as defined by another Law or Order.

E

Excerpt from the Law No. XXIV 1990 on the Capital

§10

(3) The duty and authority of the local government of the Capital is especially ...

i) Naming parts of the Capital, naming public grounds [i.e. streets etc.] after persons, or those located in more than one district.

F

Order No. 71/1989 of the Council of Ministers as modified by the Government Order No. 19/1992 on official geographical names in Hungary

Texts originating from the 1992 modification, are given in italics

§1

(1) This order covers the establishment, the use, and the recording of geographical names.

(2) Names of *counties, cities, and communes* are decided upon seperate regulations.

§2

In official publications, in proceedings of the authorities, governmental organizations, geographical names should be used as established according to this order.

§3

In applying this order geographical names are as follow:

a) names of the relief and regions: those identifying hills, mountains etc., and those identifying significant geographic or ethnic regions;

b) names of areas: those identifying territorial units in agriculture and forestry, the parts of these units as well as those identifying any area seperated by another unit or by some significant feature or object, including names which identify

two or more such areas together;

c) names of waters: names of natural water courses and artificial canals, lakes, swamps, sources, wells, etc.;

d) names of nature reserves: names of national parks, reserve districts, protected areas and caves even if such a name falls under one of the previously mentioned points a) to c);

e) names of the transport and communication: names of features in connection with transport (railway station, bridge, port, etc.), and names of telecommunication objects (post officies, etc.);

f) names of built-up areas of communes and cities: those identifying the central and other built-up area in cities and communes, as well as parts of these areas;

g) names of outskirt settlements: those identifying inhabited parts of a commune or city outside of the built-up area;

h) street names: those identifying public grounds such as streets, roads, squares, etc.

§4

(1) The competence of establishing or changing geographical names falls

(a) in case of geographical names belonging to points a) to e), §3, under the Committee on Geographical Names (further on: the Committee);

(b) in case of geographical names belonging to points f) and g), §3, on the basis of §39 of the Law No. XX. of 1991, under the Board of Local Government.

(2) In case of points f) and g), §3, the Committee gives advice on draft resolutions sent by the local government's administrator in the preparatory stage of decision-making.

§5

(1) Permanent members of the Committee are one representative of the National Population Recording Office, one representative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, three representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, one representative of the Ministry of Defence, three representatives of the Ministry for Environmental

Protection and Regional Development, three representatives of the Ministry of Transport, Telecommunication and Water Resources, two representatives of the Central Statistical Office, one representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, five representatives of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and two representatives of the Ministry of Culture and Education. The Chairman of the Committee may invite experts in some cases to discuss special items, and has to ask the opinion of the interested social organization(s).

(2) The Committee operates in the Ministry of Agriculture. Its Chairman is appointed by the Minister of Agriculture. Decisions are taken by the Committee in agreement with the representatives of the organizations interested in the establishment and in the use of the geographical name in question, as well as by a simple majority vote of the permanent members.

(3) The Committee gives advice before decisions concerning the names of communes and cities according to §58 of the Law No. LXV, 1990 on local governments.

(4) The Committee takes decision on matters outside of the provision of the law, and on questions concerning the domestic map use of foreign geographical names.

§6

(1) In establishing a geographical name, it should be taken into account the present day usage by the local population, the opinion of the *local government*, social and economic organizations, results of the sciences, historical traditioons, especially local research on these matters, names of settlements that have been laid waste, the structure of agriculture and forestry, the ethnic circumstances, and the linguistic requirements.

(2) Features given in §3 - with the exception of those referring to farmsteads - cannot be named after a living person.

(3) A name - with the exception of those reflecting historical traditions - can be changed, if similar names cause confusion, if there is a change in the usage of a name, if a feature has been changed or reshaped to which the name refers, if a name does not comply with public interest, and if the memory of a deceased outstanding person is to be preserved by the new name.

(4) A minority language name can also be established based on the rules given in the previous point (1). A minority language name for features belonging to points a) and d) to h), §3, can be established parallel with the Hungarian name.

(5) The use of a letter *and/or* a numeral instead of a geographical name is not allowed except in the form and in the cases given in a national standard, and also for automated data bases and data processing. The unofficial identification of codes with geographical names must be ensured.

(6) In names of artificial canals and lakes, and city districts, the generic element can be preceded by a numeral.

§7

(1) The local government's administrator, the National Population Recording Office, The Institute of Surveying and Remote Sensing, and the Central Statistical Office keep a record of geographical names within their competence, provide their publication, and make the names accessible.

(2) Materials and documents should be given by the Committee to the Institute of Surveying and Remote Sensing, after the procedure have been concluded, and the name adopted.

(3) Geographical names must be given on cadastral maps. The responsible regional Land Office takes care of the representation of names in connection with the preparation and the updating of cadastral maps. In case of missing or incorrect names, and areal changes, the Land Office suggests the revision of names to the Committee in accordance with the *local government*. The adopted names should be applied on maps used in agriculture, and - in accordance with aims and functions - on topographic and geographic maps of the Unifed National Map System, as well as on maps in commercial circulation.

§8

(1) The adopted names, together with the coordinates of the National Grid, are recorded and continuously maintained in the Gazetteer of Geographical Names by the Institute of Surveying and Remote Sensing.

(2) The Gazetteer of Geographical Names contains the following names:

a) names of communes and cities according to the Gazetteer of Administrative Place Names;

b) geographical names defined in points a) to g), §3, including minority language names;

c) designations used on maps (such as of museums, ruins, look-out towers, uninhabited buildings in outskirt areas, etc.).

§9

This order is effective as of 1 August, 1989. At the same time, the order No. 10/1974 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, as well as point (4) §2, pont (2) §5, and point (2) §7 of the Decree No. 1/1976 of the Office for Councils, Council of Ministers, modified by the Decree No. 2/1984 of the same Office, are void.

signed: Miklós Németh
President of the Council of Ministers

§7 of the modifying Order No. 19/1992.

This order is effective as of 15 February, 1992...

signed: Dr. József Antall
Prime Minister

UNITED
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Economic and Social Council

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SIXTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
New York, 25 August-3 September 1992
Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

TERMINOLOGY IN THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Remarks on definitions

Paper submitted by Hungary**

* E/CONF.85/1/Rev.1

** Prepared by Ervin Földi, Hungary.

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/...

The following *acronyms* are used in the remarks:

TECHTER: Technical terminology employed in the standardizationof geographical names. UN Secretariat, Department Conference Services, Translation Division, Glossary No. 330/Rev.2, 24 July 1987;

TOPTER: Glossary of toponymic terminology. Edited by Naftali Kadmon. UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names, Working Group on Terminology. May, 1991.

Please, disregard any remarks that are no more valid if a change had been made since in a new version of TOPTER!

1. The importance of having clearly defined terms in the work of national and international standardization is unquestionable. It seems also reasonable that TECHTER or any material on terms of a constantly developing activity should be revised from time to time as our knowledge increases and circumstances change.

However, on the basis of TOPTER I have the impression that a number of unnecessary changes will be submitted to this Conference, while some important aspects will not be reflected in the terms included as well as in their definition. I am aware of the risk, commenting materials and details that may have been superseded, but I hope, my remarks could be of use even so.

2. The necessity of a close contact with computers for everybody engaged with geographic names is an imperative of our age. However, I consider it as an evidence, that a glossary on toponymic terminology should not contain *elementary terms of the use of computers*. The following terms in TOPTER fall into this category:

002 address
017 alphanumeric
021 batch processing
064 default value

102 file, computer
106 format, computer
134 interactive
135 interface
181 menu, computer
213 noise, graphic
238 raster mode
241 record, computer
267 software
319 vector mode

3. Remarks on individual terms and on their definition

allonym

As a consequence of this and other definitions, names of a feature located in a region with a *non-official principal language* are both *allonyms* and *endonyms*, moreover, the name in the *non-official principal language* falls into a third category as well, it is also an *exonym*, on the basis of the definitions presented in this Glossary. See also remarks on *endonym; endonym, standardized*. This is a situation that has to be avoided.

allonym, standardized

The remarks given on *allonym* are also valid here in connection with the term *standardized endonym*. See also remarks there.

alphabet, transliteration

The expression "sometimes limited in extent" is meaningless, because we have no information, to what basis the limitaion occurs. If an *alphabet* can serve *transcription* or *transliteration* without limitation, it might not called limited. As there is no Arabic /p/, there is no need for it in the *transliteration alphabet* used in the *romnization* of Arabic, therefore, it is complete even without the P. It is incomplete only in terms of any Roman alphabet containing P, but this fact is of no significance here.

alphabet, transcription

The expression "sometimes limited in extent" is meaningless, see remarks on *transliteration alphabet*.

category, topographic; class, feature

If *feature classes* form *topographic categories*, then why is defined *topographic category* with the same meaning? Definition should state that a *topographic category* consists of *feature classes*. The example "stream" appearing in both definitions, also

suggests, that the two terms are identical. I consider both terms unnecessary as they coincide with *generic term*.

character, simplified

As to Chinese, *simplified character* has (also) another meaning: A newly designed character having the same meaning and pronounciation, but considerably fewer strokes, than the original one, eg. 东 for 東 , 国 for 國 , 归 for 歸 , etc. These pairs of characters are at the same time *variant characters*.

character, vowel

There should be "syllabic" instead of "non-alphabetic writing system" in the definition. Cf. *writing system*

coded representation

It should be mentioned that the coding may be alphanumeric, and graphic, the latter one used sometimes in indexes to give *feature categories*. Alphanumeric codes are the ISO country codes (two letter, three letter, and three numerals).

conversion, names

The addition of "names" seems unnecessary, as it is difficult to apply in most of the definitions referring to this term, and it is already left in a considerable number. Cf.

This term was originally included to solve the contradiction, that in the case of *logograms* there is no *script* from which anyone could *transform* directly into another *script* (cf. *logogram*), in contrary to the other two *writing systems*. It can be seen in the definition for *conversion* in TECHTER, that it mentions "phonological and/or morphological elements of a language or the graphic symbols of another writing system..." but it does not refer to a script! This definiton of the TECHTER is more practical in another aspect, too: it gives a possibility to include situations, when an *alphabetic* or *syllabic script* makes direct *transliteration* or *transcription* impossible, eg. the *script* contains no information in Devanagari on the use of the inherent vowel, the same is true for Amharic, besides, there is no information on double consonants, not to speak about the defective alphabetic scripts. All these examples show that *conversion* as defined in TECHTER covered situations that have been left out of consideration TOPTER. -- In other words: the definition in TOPTER is incorrect.

coordinates, topographic

I wonder why the term *grid coordinates* cannot be used. Even the term *rectangular coordinates* would be much better.

Besides, under *coordinates* we understand in cartography usually *coordinate values*, and not the *grid* itself, as this definition says (cf. Term No. 321.17 in Multilingual Dictionary of Technical Terms in Cartography, Wiesbaden, 1973).

The necessity of improving this definition is shown from the definition for UTM grid, where the term *topographic coordinates* is forgotten. It suggests, that the UTM grid is not formed by *topographic coordinates*, but by something else. Reference to each other is also missing.

Another question: why *geographical coordinates* (in the aforementioned Dictionary: *graticule co-ordinates*) are not included in this Glossary? Just because in many cases they are exclusively used in locating *geographic names*, while *grid coordinates* usually appear together with *geographical coordinates* only?

data element, data item

I cannot see any difference between the actual meaning of the two terms. According to the definition. the item is the content of the element, however, the example is in both cases a date, and it seems quite clear, that both data occupie a complete data field. They must be synonyms.

data portability

"The capacity of running the same program ..."

diacritic

It seems that TOPTER definition in contrary to TECHTER excludes *diacritics* (at least in some languages) which give the position of a stress without a *phonemic* value. If this is not true, examples of this kind should also be given.

element, generic

This definition is incorrect in TOPTER because it has been incorrect already in TECHTER. This is clearly shown if we take the example Port-au-Prince (correctly with hyphens), because Port in this name is not a *generic term*, as the feature is the capital of Haiti, and the port is only a smaller part of the city, therefore the *generic term* would be "populated place". The second part of the definition in TOPTER is a correct statement, and the whole definition could be improved by not referring to *generic term*.

element, specific

Here again, reference to *generic term* should be left, as many geographic names do not contain a *generic term* in the sense defined in this Glossary.

endonym

It seems that the definition of this term is unnecessarily broad. Let me take a theoretical example. Somewhere in East Central Europe there is a region, outside of Hungary, with the Hungarian as the *non-official principal language*. The Hungarian name of a commune (village) or of a city in this region, is an *endonym* (according to the definition here), and, at the same time, an *exonym* (according to the definition of exonym). Of course, there is another name present, the *official name*, i.e. the name in the *official languge* of this region.

In other words: if the term *exonym* is strictly connected with *standardization*, this fact cannot be left from the definition of the *endonym*. Otherwise it is impossible to seperate them.

The difficulties described here originate from the fact, that in this Glossary the use of the term *minority language* is deliberately avoided and substituted by the terms *non-official language*, and *national language* (see also remarks there).

endonym, standardized

This term also seems to be the result of a misunderstanding. Standardization is needed when *allonyms* are present. An *endonym*, as defined above, is a single name with the exception of the presence of more than one *language*. The example Kingston-upon-Hull and Hull shows that they are both English language *allonyms*. Contrary to the conception of this definition, a *standardized endonym* leads to the situtaion described in the definition of the term *standardized allonym*.

exonym

The definition has been slightly modified in TOPTER as compared to TECHTER. Excluding variants in diacritics only, and converted forms is logical. On the other hand, joining *conversion*, (in terms of TOPTER *transfform* should be used!) some dangers occur.

The definition suggests to consider all *conversions* (or *transformations*) are exceptions, while in the practice, deviation form any *systematic conversion* may produce exonyms. Example: Both *Moscou* and *Moskva* are conversions, but the first one is also an exonym in terms of *standardization*. This means, that another term is in the background: Conversion exonym: A name converted into a specific target script by using a different *transcription* or *translite-transliteration key* as compared to names in the same context.

Another problem is that the possibility using *minority language* toponyms parallel to the name in the *official language* produces a situation not reflected in this definition (cf. Report

by Hungary, Annex: Legal background of name standardization). Definiton of TOPTER could be corrected simply by writing "standardized name or names" instead of "standardized name".

Relating to other problems, see remarks on *allonym*, *standardized allonym*, *endonym*, *standardized allonym*.

exonymization

This definition leads to a dangerous and delicate territory. The *history* of a *toponym* has been included.

The definition suggests that an *exonym* originates from the need to substitute an *endonym* (at this point I do not repeat why the TOPTER definition for *endonym* is wrong, see there). This is clearly shown looking at the definition of *names transformation*, where it is stated that *exonymization* is a similar act as *translation*, *transcription* or *transliteration*. This is not true, as there are many examples in the history of *geographical names* considered at present as *exonyms*, when *endonyms* had to be created for topographic features in case of newly acquired territories, i.e. *endonyms* were substituted for *exonyms*.

Another question: where does this substitution happen? In the language, or on the map? If it is intended to refer to a map, it must be clearly stated and it has to be decided whether the use of an *exonym* below the *endonym* on the map in a smaller size, and perhaps in brackets, is *exonymization* or not (at present, it is not, because no substitution happens).

feature, hydrographic

In TOPTER this term was limited for the oceans and seas, and the term *hydrological feature* has been included for inland waters. In TECHTER both category appear under one term, and the examples suggest, that *marine features* are excluded, though the definition includes all features consisting of water.

font

Computer printers use *font* meaning style, and the term *pitch* meaning sizes. Cf. *typeface*.

hyphenization

Meaning (a) is the same as that of *syllabification*, therefore it should be dropped.

Second part of the definition (b) is unnecessary and misleading. "Preventing change of word order" may be of use in some languages, but in other languages, such as German or Hungarian, the use of hyphens is a question syntax. In Hungarian geographical names the *hyphen* shows in most cases that the

elements joined together are similar to elements of a composite word, but actually not, as elements of a composite word are written together in *one word*. The definition is misleading, because it gives the impression that the only function of a *hyphen* could be prevention.

international names rendition

A map described here should use the *ideographic script* for Chinese, and the *syllabic script* for India etc. This is a nonsense! The definition for *multilingual lettering* in TECHTER is much better, even if the word *multilingual* is not the best one. I would prefer to keep words in terms that have been used in the English language for a considerable time, even if the word could be substituted by a more precise one but never used before. This is the case with many terms in TOPTERM, eg. *names rendition*, *multiscriptual*, *topographic coordinates*, *allonym* etc.

IPA

IPA can serve phonemic transcription as well.

language, source; language, target

According to the definition of *names transformation*, this definiton should be put "...a name is transformed to ..." and "...a toponym may be ... transformed..." resp.

letter, basic

In the example "Polish l as against ł" should stand.

lettering, map

I consider it as an unnecessary precision to make distinction between *writing systems* in such a purely technical matter. even if the term *letter* belongs to *alphabetic writing system* only. See remark on *international map rendition*.

linguistics

Syntax being a term in TOPTERM should be mentioned here.

map script

As far as I know, the word *script* in the English cannot describe an activity, it is not a verb like *lettering*. I dont think that in the interest of extremely precise scientific categorization a new type of English language should be invented. Either the term should be changed to *name placing* (as it is written in the definition) or the definition should be changed to "The totality of toponyms and other ...on maps"

Consideration should be given to the definition of *script* in this Glossary as well.

map script, multiscriptual

This method is much more frequent in gazetteers, therefore, the use of the word "map" in the term is less justified, than to put it the other way: *multiscriptual gazetteer* (term), "...in a gazetter or (sometimes) on maps .." (definition).

marker

As mentioned in connection with the term *radical*, a *logogram* cannot have a *marker* "...used only in combination ...". See remarks on *radical*.

name, composite

Example should be given, when the free *morphemes* are in one word, eg. Kemijoki (Finnish 'Kemi River').

phoneme

I wonder why the word "functionally" is put into brackets when this term gives the essence of the entire notion as opposite to non-functional *allophones*.

phonology

Definition is entirely incorrect. *Phonology* deals with the semiotic aspect of sounds as distinct from *phonetics*. *Phonology* aims at studying not only the speech sound, but its function in the speech structure. The present definition is a variation on the theme *phonetics*.

radical, radix

The *radical* or *radix* is in Chinese one of the two equal parts of most *logograms*. Therefore, the example, and the definition is not right: the *radical* "tree" is combined with other *logograms*, which have an independent meaning, too. Eg. the *logogram* "tree" is combined with the *logogram* "orchid", and the result is the *logogram* for "magnolia"; or the *logogram* "tree" is duplicated into one *logogram*, and the new *logogram* means "forest". There is also a *logogram* consisting of three original "tree" *logograms*, meaning "dense forest, shadow, etc." In other words: if we accept the definition *marker* ("used only in combination"), then the definition for *radical* is incorrect.

romanization

In terms of the present Glossary, the correct definition would be: "*Transformation* from a non-Roman script ..."

script

The TOPTER definition is actually not a definition. I suggest the following: "A set of graphic symbols of common origin, employed as the basic letters, characters or logograms in the alphabet, in the syllabary or in the logographic lexicon of one or more languages."

At the end of the definition there is a part of a sentence not belonging here.

script, source; script, target

Transformed should be used instead of "converted" as a consequence of the term *names transformation*.

sequence; sequence rules, alphabetic

Not only alphabetic, but also syllabic and logographic sequence exists. As to the problems in the Roman script the most important one: existence of different alphabets with different sequences, the need for toponymic indexes and gazetteers using exclusively the basic characters as sequence units. In my experience the sequence of the Czech and Slovak *ch* after *h*, and the Swedish *ä and å* at the end of the alphabet, are the extremest examples, not to speak about the Hungarian digraphs *cs, gy, ly, ny, sz, ty* and *zs*, to be ordered as separate units after *c, g, l, n, s, t, z* respectively.

syllable

The example Br-no could be helpful in showing that the speech, and not (always) the writing is a basis.

toponomastics

The definition must be a mistake. It is a synonym for *toponymy*. Cf. *onomastics*.

transformation, names

This categorization does not work in practice, as a great number of *exonyms* were produced by translation.

translation

It should be mentioned, that the *meaning* of a toponym can be explained in different ways. According to one aspect, eg. the meaning of a geographical name is not the one expressed by

the constituent words, but the *relation* between the feature and the name as a sign. On the other hand, the *translation* of a *geographical name* is always based on the other type: meaning of the constituent words.

transliteration

The definition is wrong. It is not the aim of *transliteration* to preserve phonological elements. In case of an *alphabet* like the English or French as *source scripts*, a transliteration cannot respect the sounds in order to make possible the complete reversibility, because the alphabet is used inconsistently in the *source script* in respect to *phonemes* of the language.

If *transliteration* "aims at complete reversibility" then "in principle" should be omitted from the first sentence. Consequently, the example Ščukno for Щукно (correctly: Щукино) is wrong, as beside the šč (щ), there are š (ш) and č (ч) *transcriptions* in this system, thus reversibility is not possible. In case of *transliteration* щ = ŝ, ю = û, я = â instead of the UN recommendation šč, ju, and ja respectively.

The example Adis Abeba would be correct as the doubling is not shown in the Amharic script, but the vowel e represents an /ɛ/ sound (1st) that should be underlined to distinct it from the /e/ sound (5th) according to UN recommendation. The example Piraievs would be correct if there is a system (I never heard about it) which represents the Greek letter υ consequently with the Roman v; we have to bear in mind that an approved UN recommendation exists for the *transcription* of Greek, where this Greek letter should be transcribed variously as u, f, and v depending on the represented *phoneme*.

Theere is a problem in the background: the fact that two different aspects of *transliteration* exist. *Transliteration* in the strict sense, represented by ISO transliteration standards, realizes complete *reversibility*. On the other hand, there is a cartographic aspect which does not want a complete *reversibility*, but a systematic substitution of the source characters by the target characters (one character or combination of characters in the target script for one character or combination of characters in the source script where a character or a combination of characters can be used only once in the target script.

The present definition does not or is intended not to decide on this matter. However, the decision is inevitable. It must be stated either that *transliteration* is not a requirement in UN recommendations, i.e. *transcriptions* can also be approved, or to or to create another definiton for *transliteration* which reflects our aspect, where *reversibility* is not mentioned, and this type

of *transliteration* is considered as one in the broad sense, as opposite to the ISO system in the strict sense.

typeface

As already mentioned, the term *font* is used for this definition on computer printers.

UTM grid

Why not *topographic coordinates*? Cf. there.

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SIXTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE
STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
New York, 25 August-3 September 1992
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

REPORTS BY DIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTS ON THE SITUATION IN THEIR REGIONS AND COUNTRIES AND ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES SINCE THE FIFTH CONFERENCE

Report of Japan

Paper submitted by Japan**

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* E/CONF.85/1/Rev.1.

** Prepared by the Government of Japan.

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1. The present state of the standardization of geographical names and corresponding activities in Japan since the Fifth United Nations Conference is described below.

Standardization of domestic names

2. No single central agency exists in Japan which is responsible for collecting, registering and standardizing geographical names. Several agencies and organizations share the responsibility in their respective fields, and have cooperated to standardize geographical names.

3. Names of administrative divisions and settlements are stipulated in appropriate laws and regulations. No effort to collect and standardize them again is necessary, because there is no conflict in spelling, pronunciation or their applications to appropriate areas. Therefore, greater efforts have been given to standardizing the names of natural features and conventional place-names.

4. The Geographical Survey Institute and the Hydrographic Department of the Maritime Safety Agency, the agencies responsible for mapping, have collected geographical names to be entered on their maps and charts. In order to unify geographical names used by the two agencies, the Joint Committee on the Standardization of Georgraphical Names was established in 1960 and meets once or twice a year. Since the Fifth Conference, the names already standardized have been reviewed in the Joint Committee.

Names of undersea features

5. Undersea features discovered and surveyed by Japanese agencies have been named officially by the Hydrographic Department of the Maritime Safety Agency after deliberation by the Assembly on Geographical Names of Oceans and Undersea Features, the members of which are marine scientists and agencies associated with ocean survey and research.

6. Standardization of undersea feature names, a publication compiled by the GEBCO Subcommittee on Geographical Names and Nomenclature of Ocean Bottom Features and the Working Group on Maritime and Undersea Features of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, is being used as a standard for the deliberations.

7. Since the Fifth Conference, 379 names (seamounts: 129; knolls: 42; canyons: 50; basins: 4; miscellaneous: 154) have been adopted and the total number of names at present is 1,059.

Antarctic geographical names

8. The naming of newly discovered or observed natural features and important places by the Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition is promoted by the National Institute of Polar Research.

9. The director of the Institute, seeking counsel from the Antarctic Place-Names Committee of Japan, makes out a draft of the new names. On the basis of proposed names, new names are adopted at the general convention of the headquarters of the Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition.

10. Since the Fifth Conference, 15 names have been adopted and the total number of names is now 291.

Romanization of geographical names

11. No particular progress has been made on the romanization system in Japan since the Fifth Conference.

12. The Roman spelling of Japanese is usually done using two systems of romanization: "Kunrei Siki", which is slightly modified from "Nihon Siki" (the Japanese system); and "Syûsei Hebon Siki" (the Modified Hepburn system). Both have been used widely for a long time.

13. The geographical names used on Japanese official maps and charts for international use are spelled by the Kunrei Siki system. In special cases, except on national base maps, other systems (of Syûsei Hebon Siki and Nihon Siki) are also used.

Toponymic data file

14. Since the Fifth Conference, the Geographical Survey Institute has been constructing a data file containing about 120,000 geographical names. It will be completed in 1992.

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New York, 25 August-3 September 1992
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION

National standardization of geographical names in Japan

Paper submitted by Japan**

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* E/CONF.85/1/Rev.1.

** Prepared by the Government of Japan.

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It is said that there are more than 10 million geographical names in Japan that are commonly used in daily life. It is a valuable endeavour to collect, register and standardize these names since they help not only to preserve the country's cultural heritage but also to promote economic and social activities.

There is no single central agency responsible for collecting, registering and standardizing geographical names in Japan. Several agencies and organizations have been sharing the responsibility in their respective specialized fields and have cooperated in achieving consistent standardization.

The agencies engaged in map preparation, namely the Geographical Survey Institute and the Hydrographic Department of the Maritime Safety Agency, collect and treat geographical names of geographical entities in land and ocean areas respectively. Both agencies adopt the names to be used on their maps and charts by referring to the local governments concerned, on the principle that the name used in common among the people of the concerned local areas should be adopted.

Names of administrative divisions and settlements are stipulated in appropriate laws and regulations, and new names and their application to appropriate areas are announced in the official gazettes. These names are therefore treated as standardized. The spelling and pronunciation of natural feature names and other conventional place-names, however, have not always been fixed even among the people of the concerned local areas. They change with time. Sometimes one natural feature has two or more names.

In order to cope with this kind of problem and to standardize the names to be used by the two agencies, the Joint Committee on the Standardization of Geographical Names was established in 1960 with the aim of unifying the geographical names to be used on maps and charts prepared by the Geographical Survey Institute and the Hydrographic Department. The Joint Committee sits once or twice a year. Representatives from the elementary and secondary education bureaux, the Ministry of Education and the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) are invited to take part in the Joint Committee as observers. The names adopted by the Joint Committee are to be used in education and broadcasting.

Decisions on geographical names are based on the following principles:

(a) Names commonly used by both agencies are adopted as the standard names. If there is a conflict, the standard name is decided after conferring with local governments and other agencies;

(b) The names of international waters admitted by the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) are adopted as a rule;

(c) "Hiragana (or Hirakana)" characters should be used to indicate the pronunciation of names;

(d) Characters to be used for writing the geographical names should be: "Kanji" (Chinese character); "Hiragana"; "Katakana"; and a long vowel symbol (-) in case of "Katakana".

(Example)	Spelling of name	Pronunciation
	日ノ峰山	ひのみねさん

(Hinomine San)

As of 1978, the Joint Committee has completed standardizing 6,000 natural feature names on maps at 1:500,000 scale.

Since the Fifth Conference, the Joint Committee has been reviewing already adopted standardized geographical names.

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TOPONYMIC DATA FILES: AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING (ADP) SYSTEMS

Automated data processing in Japan

Paper submitted by Japan**

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** Prepared by the Government of Japan.

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With the spread of the use of computer systems in governmental agencies and private enterprises in Japan, information concerning geographical names has been commonly processed by using computers.

An administration code number is assigned by the Japanese Industrial Standard (JIS) to each local government, a total of about 3,300. Data files with the names of local governments and their code numbers have been completed and are widely used by many agencies and companies.

The data file containing the names of local governments and their sub-villages was compiled by the Local Authorities Systems Development Centre and the Japan Geographical Association, which are extragovernmental organizations of the Ministry of Home Affairs. About 450,000 place-names, along with their data category, spelling, spelling in "Katakana" (phonetic spelling) and other information are stored in magnetic tape files. Several private companies also keep these types of data file, which are available to the public.

With regard to the names of natural features and other conventional place-names, the geographical names standardized by the Joint Committee on Standardization of Geographical Names have been digitized by the Geographical Survey Institute. Regarding approximately 9,000 geographical feature names and local governments' names, which are to be shown on 1:500,000 maps, such information as data category, spelling of the name (in "Kanji", "Hiragana" and "Katakana"), phonetic spelling in "Hiragana", spelling in roman letters, corresponding code number, map name and position have already been stored on magnetic tape files.

The Geographical Survey Institute will complete a geographical names data file of Japan by 1992. This file contains 120,000 geographical names on regional maps drawn at 1:200,000 scale.

Data file based on the 1:200,000 scale regional maps

The data elements of the data file are as follows:

(a) Map sheet name

The names of sheets containing the place concerned in both a 1:200,000 scale regional map and a 1:50,000 scale topographic map are recorded.

(b) Identity number

The sequential number of a geographical name is recorded.

(c) Feature classification

Geographical features are classified into 10 classes, such as administrative division, summit, lake, river, sea area, beach, island, broad natural feature, transportation facility and others. Some classes are further

divided into subclasses. The feature class for a geographical name is recorded. The size and spacing of characters can be known by the feature class, since this classification accords with the lettering rules of the 1:200,000 scale regional maps.

(d) Administrative division code

The code number of the administrative division, where the geographical entity is located, is recorded. The administrative code numbers have been prepared by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(e) Spelling

The official spelling, which usually includes ideogram "Kanji" characters, is recorded.

(f) Pronunciation

The pronunciation derived from the geographical names description reported by the local government is recorded.

(g) Number of characters

The total number of characters required to officially spell the geographical name is recorded.

(h) Position of the geographical name on the 1:200,000 scale regional map

The lower left corner point coordinates of both the first and the last characters of a spelt name are recorded. The spacing can be calculated from the coordinate values and the number of characters. For such geographical names as the names of subdivided administrative divisions or railway stations, spacing is fixed according to the lettering rules. Therefore only the corner point of the first character is recorded.

(i) Relation between character orientation and direction of the spelt name

The character orientation with respect to the direction of the spelt name, parallel or across, is distinguished and recorded.

(j) Mispronunciations

Possible mispronunciations of the geographical name, if any, are recorded. Therefore the geographical name can be retrieved even if correct pronunciation is unknown.

Gazetteer based on the 1:200,000 scale regional maps

20万分1地勢図基準 自然地名 277頁

所在地形図		地名	読み方	3次メッシュ	備考
東京	11	相模原	サガミハラ	53392312	広域自然
東京	12	横須賀水道	ヨコスカスイドウ	53390356	河川
東京	12	境川	サカイガワ	53391318	河川
東京	12	高松山	タカマツヤマ	53391235	山
東京	12	白山	ハクサン	53391263	山
東京	12	高取山	タカトリヤマ	53391292	山
東京	12	鈴川	スズカワ	53390234	河川
東京	12	引地川	ヒキヂガワ	53390346	河川
東京	12	渋田川	シブタガワ	53390247	河川
東京	13	白石峠	シロイシトウゲ	53397193	山
a	b	c	d	e	f

Key

a. Map sheet name.

b. Code number of a 1:50,000 scale topographic map in the regional map.

c. Spelling.

d. Pronunciation.

e. Tertiary mesh code number. The standard regional grid and mesh code system is based on longitude and latitude coordinates and is used for statistical research. All Japan is divided into more than 100 areas of primary mesh by meridian lines with 1 degree and parallel lines with 40 minu es. The primary mesh corresponds to a sheet area of the 1:200,000 scale regional map. The secondary mesh is defined by dividing the primary mesh area into 8x8 portions corresponding to the 1:25,000 scale topographic map sheet area. The tertiary mesh is defined by dividing the secondary mesh into 10x10 portions. The area of the tertiary mesh is approximately 1 sq km in the central part of Japan.

f. Feature classification.